

Message Text

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ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 IO-13
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SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 /114 W
-----171759Z 117254 /53

O R 171723Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5218

INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 LONDON 10075

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: XV. TGEN, UK

SUBJECT: ANTARCTIC TREATY: NINTH CONSULTATIVE MEETING:
EIGHTH MONTHLY PREPARATORY MEETING

REF: (A) LONDON 10004; (B) STATE 138852; (C) LONDON 9678
(D) LONDON 8436; (E) LONDON 8437

1. SUMMARY CONTAINED REFTEL (A).

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2. EIGHTH MONTHLY PREPARATORY MEETING FOR THE NINTH CONSULTATIVE MEETING OF THE ANTARCTIC TREATY WAS HELD AT FCO JUNE 16 WITH UK REP JOHN HEAP IN CHAIR. AGENDA ITEM I, PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR NINTH CONSULTATIVE MEETING, WAS UNCHANGED. NEW AGENDA ITEM II, ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS FOR IXTH ATCM, WAS ADDED. PRIOR TO MEETING, ARGEN-

TINE REP ASKED U.S. REP "VERY INFORMALLY" HOW HE THOUGHT U.S. MIGHT REACT TO A PROPOSAL THAT PROSPECTIVE CONSULTATIVE MEMBERS RESTRICT THEIR SCIENTIFIC EXPLORATION TO AREAS OTHER THAN THOSE ALREADY BEING "INTENSIVELY EXPLORED" SUCH AS THE ANTARCTIC PENINSULA. WE PROMISED TO RAISE QUESTION "INFORMALLY" WITH DEPARTMENT AND TO PROVIDE HIM WITH INFORMAL INDICATION OF VIEWS ASAP. PLEASE ADVISE.

3. AGENDA ITEM I(1). CHILEAN REP APOLOGIZED FOR NOT BEING ABLE TO SUBMIT PROMISED PAPER ON EFFECTS OF TOURISTS IN THE ANTARCTIC TREATY AREA. HE VERY CANDIDLY ADMITTED THAT HIS DRAFT HAD BEEN REJECTED BY HIS FOREIGN OFFICE AND THAT HE WAS WAITING THEIR FURTHER COMMENTS. THERE WAS NO COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEM 2.

4. AGENDA ITEM 1(3). HEAP CIRCULATED "SUMMARY OF THE VIEWS SO FAR EXPRESSED ON THE GUIDELINES FOR THE MEETING OF EXPERTS." UNLESS HE RECEIVES OBJECTIONS, HE WILL SUBMIT IT TO THE NINTH CONSULTATIVE AS REFLECTING CONSENSUS OF THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE PREPARATORY MEETINGS. TEXT FOLLOWS SEPTEL. THERE WAS NO COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS 1(4) AND 1(5).

5. AGENDA ITEM 1(6). USSR REP PROPOSED THAT AGENDA ITEM BE CHANGED TO READ: "IMPROVED PROCEDURES FOR GATHERING AND DISTRIBUTING METEOROLOGICAL INFORMATION." HE ALSO PROPOSED THAT A WORKING GROUP OF EXPERTS BE ESTABLISHED AT NINTH CONSULTATIVE TO STUDY THIS SUBJECT AND REPORT
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BACK TO CONSULTATIVE MEETING WITH RECOMMENDATIONS. MOSCOW IS PREPARING DRAFT SET OF RECOMMENDATIONS. USSR REP SUGGESTED WORKING GROUP COULD REVIEW INTER ALIA "DETERIORATION IN THE FLOW OF INFORMATION FROM U.S., UK AND OTHER STATIONS;" POSSIBLE ESTABLISHMENT OF CENTRAL AND GROUP RADIO STATIONS; AND POSSIBILITY OF RECEIVING INFORMATION AT ANTARCTIC METEOROLOGICAL CENTER FROM ANTARCTIC STATIONS SITUATED NORTH OF THE 60TH PARALLEL. IN RESPONSE TO HEAP'S SUGGESTION, USSR REP AGREED TO ASK MOSCOW TO PROVIDE DRAFT AGENDA BASED ON THE SUGGESTIONS FOR EARLY DISTRIBUTION.

6. AGENDA ITEM 1(7). HEAP OPENED DISCUSSION UNDER THIS ITEM BY REVIEWING THE PREVIOUSLY SUBMITTED PAPERS ON PROCEDURE AND MAKING STRONG APPEAL FOR COMMENTS TO AID MOVEMENT TOWARD AGREED TEXT. NEW ZEALAND REP SAID HIS GOVERNMENT HAS NO PROBLEMS WITH EITHER ARGENTINE OR SOUTH AFRICAN DRAFTS. HE SUGGESTED, HOWEVER, THAT BEST COMPROMISE MIGHT BE TO DROP PARA (C) FROM ARGENTINE PAPER (REF

D) ON PROCEDURES AS BEING REDUNDANT AND INCORPORATE PARA
(E) FROM SOUTH AFRICAN PAPER (REF E), WHICH DEALS WITH
COUNTRIES NO LONGER CONDUCTING SUBSTANTIAL SCIENTIFIC
RESEARCH. HE STRESSED THAT HIS GOVERNMENT FEELS POLAND
HAS "REACHED ACCESSION" AND WE ARE NOW MOVING BEYOND
POLAND. SOUTH AFRICAN REP AGREED THAT WITH INCLUSION OF

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SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 /115 W
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O R 171723Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5219
INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y FOR TEXT PARA EIGHT

PARA (E), HE COULD SUPPORT ARGENTINE PROPOSAL.

7. AUSTRALIAN REP INTERVENED TO SAY CANBERRA HAS OPTED
INSTEAD FOR THE SIMPLICITY OF APRIL 28 INFORMAL DRAFT BY

UK. THEY FEEL (A) GROUP SHOULD DEMAND NO MORE FROM
APPLICANT THAN THAT THEY CONFORM TO ARTICLE IX, PARA 2;
(B) THAT TREATY MEMBERS SHOULD NOT ATTEMPT TO EVALUATE
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WHETHER SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMS "SUBSTANTIAL" OR NOT; AND (C)
THAT IT IS ASKING TOO MUCH TO REQUIRE THAT ALL RECOMMEN-
DATIONS BE ACCEPTED WHEN MANY PRESENT MEMBERS HAVE NOT
ACCEPTED THEM ALL. AUSTRALIAN REP SAID EMPHASIS SHOULD
BE ON KEEPING PROCEDURE AS SIMPLE AS POSSIBLE. HEAP RE-
FERRED BACK TO MARCH EPM AND SAID POINT ON ACCEPTANCE OF
ALL RECOMMENDATIONS WAS WELL TAKEN. HE WAS SUPPORTED BY
CHILEAN REP WHO SUGGESTED THAT SOME REFERENCE TO ACCEPT-
ING ALL RECOMMENDATIONS ALREADY ACCEPTED BY ALL MEMBERS
MIGHT SOLVE THIS PROBLEM. BOTH HEAP AND CHILEAN REP
ARGUED THAT IN ORDER TO AVOID EXTRANEIOUS ISSUES AFFECTING
A NATION'S RIGHT TO ACCESSION TO CONSULTATIVE STATUS, THE
INTERPRETATION OF THE TREATY MUST BE STATED AS PRECISELY
AS POSSIBLE.

8. FOLLOWING LENGTHY DISCUSSION OF MINOR DRAFTING POINTS,
NEW ZEALAND REP APPEALED FOR GROUP TO TAKE SWIFT DECISION
ON HOW TO HANDLE DRAFTING PROCEDURES. HE SUGGESTED THAT
HEAP, WITH THE AID OF ARGENTINE AND SOUTH AFRICAN REPS,
PREPARE "SNT" REFLECTING PRIOR DISCUSSIONS. HEAP CON-
CURRED. AUSTRALIAN REP MADE IT CLEAR THAT THEIR OBJEC-
TIONS HAD BEEN MADE ON SUBSTANCE RATHER THAN FORM AND THAT
CANBERRA MIGHT WISH TO SUBMIT AMENDMENTS. HEAP TOOK NOTE
OF HER RESERVATION AND REQUESTED THAT AMENDMENTS BE SUB-
MITTED NLT JUNE 21 SO THAT DRAFT MAY BE CIRCULATED TO
CAPITALS FOR COMMENTS PRIOR TO NEXT MONTHLY.

9. COMMENT: IN LIGHT OF DECISIVE NATURE OF HEAP'S
COMMENTS, U.S. REP INTERJECTED RESERVATION THAT LACK OF
COMMENT BY U.S. IN NO WAY IMPLIED ACCEPTANCE OF SUBSTANCE
OR FORM OF THE PROPOSED DRAFTS. IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARA
1, REFTEL (B), WE HAD INFORMED HEAP PRIOR TO MEETING THAT
WE WERE NOT ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT HIS IDEA OF CREATING A
SMALL DRAFTING GROUP. HE SAID THAT HE APPRECIATED OUR
CONCERNS OVER SUBSTANCE BUT THAT IN ABSENCE OF U.S.
COMMENT ON PROPOSED DRAFTS, HE FEELS IT IS INCUMBENT UPON
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HIM TO PREPARE SOME KIND OF "SNT" IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN
FORWARD MOMENTUM. HE SAID HE WOULD DROP IDEA OF AD HOC
DRAFTING GROUP AND PROCEED BY HIMSELF. AS IT TURNED OUT,

AUSTRALIAN REP'S INTERVENTION (WHICH MAY HAVE BEEN PRIMED BY HEAP WHEN WE DID NOT RISE TO BAIT) SOLVED THE MATTER FOR HIM. IF WE WISH TO TRY AND INFLUENCE HEAP'S "SNT" COMMENTS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED NLT COB JUNE 21. PLEASE ADVISE DEPARTMENT'S REACTION TO THIS DEVELOPMENT ASAP. IF DEPARTMENT BELIEVES QUESTION IS ONE OF BASIC APPROACH RATHER THAN OF SIMPLE DRAFTING, IT WOULD SEEM PRUDENT FOR US NOT TO LEAVE OUR INTERVENTION UNTIL THE LAST MOMENT. POSITIONS ON DRAFT PROCEDURES ARE FIRING RAPIDLY AND IT MAY ALREADY BE TOO LATE FOR U.S. TO HAVE CONSTRUCTIVE IMPACT ON THIS DEBATE. END COMMENT.

10. AGENDA ITEM 1(7) CONTINUED. (A) HEAP CIRCULATED BACKGROUND PAPERS ON POLISH SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES IN ANTARCTICA WHICH HE SAID WERE TRANSMITTED BY POLISH GOVERNMENT TO ALL TREATY MEMBER CAPITALS LAST WEEK. COPIES ARE BEING POUCHED DEPARTMENT AND WARSAW. (B) AUSTRALIAN REP RAISED QUESTION OF WHETHER THERE WILL BE ANY NEED TO KEEP THIS ITEM ON AGENDA FOR NINTH CONSULTATIVE ONCE POLAND HAS BEEN ADMITTED. HEAP ASKED THAT THIS QUESTION BE REFERRED TO CAPITALS AND THAT IT BE CONSIDERED AT EXTENDED PREPARATORY FOLLOWING JULY 25 AD HOC CONSULTATIVE. (C) ARGENTINE REP RAISED "QUESTION OF PROCEDURE." HE WAS AT PAINS TO EMPHASIZE THAT IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH POLAND WHICH HAS, ACCORDING TO HIS GOVERNMENT, ALREADY MET QUALIFICATIONS FOR CONSULTATIVE STATUS. HE PROPOSED THAT "FOR REASONS OF LOGIC AND FORM," GENERAL ADMISSION PROCEDURE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED FIRST AT AD HOC CONSULTATIVE MEETING AND POLISH ADMISSION QUESTION RESOLVED SECOND. FRENCH REP AGREED THAT IT IS PREFERABLE TO BEGIN WITH GENERAL PROCEDURES. USSR REP STATED THAT HIS GOVERNMENT'S AGREEMENT TO THE APPROVAL OF PROCEDURES CAN ONLY BE GIVEN IF PROMPT AND SIMULTANEOUS ADMISSION OF CONFIDENTIAL

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POLAND CAN BE MADE. HEAP SAID THAT HE THOUGHT ARGENTINE SUGGESTION WAS NOT INCONSISTENT WITH THE PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED "PACKAGE CONCEPT." ARGENTINE REP SAID HE ASSUMED EVERYONE AGREES POLAND HAS FULFILLED THE REQUIREMENTS SO THERE SHOULD BE NO PROBLEM IN HANDLING THE TWO QUESTIONS

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SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 /114 W
-----171755Z 117380 /53

O R 171723Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5220
INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY OSLO
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SIMULTANEOUSLY. BUT IN THE FORMAL COMMUNIQUE, THE QUESTION OF PROCEDURES SHOULD COME FIRST. HEAP PROPOSED THE FOLLOWING SCENARIO, WHICH WAS ACCEPTED WITHOUT COMMENT, EXCEPT FROM THE USSR REP WHO SAID HE MUST REPORT IT TO MOSCOW. FIRST, CHAIRMAN WILL OPEN MEETING BY STATING HIS BELIEF THAT ALL MEMBERS AGREE POLAND WILL BE SEATED AND THAT MEETING HAS BEEN CALLED TO AGREE ON PROCEDURES FOR ADMISSION AND THE FORM OF WORDS TO BE USED IN RECOGNIZING POLISH ACCESSION TO CONSULTATIVE STATUS. DISCUSSION WILL
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THEN PROCEED SIMULTANEOUSLY ON BOTH POINTS WITH FORMER BEING DEALT WITH FIRST IN COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT CLOSE OF CONSULTATIVE. THERE WAS NO COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEM 1(8).

11. AGENDA ITEM II. AS A GROUP OF EXPERTS WILL BE MEETING AT THE SAME TIME AS THE CONSULTATIVE, HEAP HAS DECIDED TO PLAN FOR SOMEWHAT LARGER THAN USUAL DELEGATIONS.

HE IS WORKING ON THE BASIS OF TWICE AS MANY DELEGATES AS AT PAST CONSULTATIVES. LARGER DELEGATIONS CANNOT BE ACCOMMODATED. HE REQUESTED PRELIMINARY INDICATION OF SIZE OF DELEGATIONS ASAP.

12. AGENDA ITEM III-- ANY OTHER BUSINESS. HEAP IS IN PROCESS OF ISSUING INVITATIONS TO EXTENDED PREPARATORY WHICH WILL OPEN ON JULY 26. WHILE PROVISION HAS BEEN MADE FOR MEETING TO RUN THROUGH THE 29TH, FRANCE AND NORWAY HAVE ASKED THAT IT BE KEPT TO TWO DAYS. HEAP DID NOT, HOWEVER, ENDORSE THIS SUGGESTION AS MANY DELEGATES ARE TRAVELLING LONG DISTANCES AND HE WOULD BE RELUCTANT TO HAVE THEM COME FOR JUST TWO DAYS.

13. THE NEXT MONTHLY PREPARATORY MEETING WILL BE HELD AT 1500 ON JULY 6.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: AGREEMENTS, NEGOTIATIONS, MEETING REPORTS
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977LONDON10075
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Format: TEL
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770646/aaaabnyw.tel
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Office: ACTION OES
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 7
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 LONDON 10004, 77 STATE 138852, 77 LONDON 9678, 77 LONDON 8436, 77 LONDON 8437
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2114348
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ANTARCTIC TREATY: NINTH CONSULTATIVE MEETING: EIGHTH MONTHLY PREPARATORY MEETING
TAGS: TGEN, XV, UK
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/6605fc7a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009